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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

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Prices Received by Farmers

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during June totaled 700,000 pounds, unchanged from May but 22 percent below the previous year.

There were 900 head of **cattle** slaughtered during June, up 100 head from May but 200 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 769 pounds, down 18 pounds from the previous month and 30 pounds below June 2005. Total live weight, at 661,000 pounds, was 3 percent above the previous month but 27 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during June totaled 200 head, unchanged from May but 100 head below the previous year. Live weight averaged 455 pounds, down 43 pounds from May and 61 pounds below June 2005. Total live weight, at 79,000 pounds, was down 35 percent from May and 50 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during June totaled 1,200 head, down 300 head from the previous month and 500 head from the previous year. Average live weight was 191 pounds, down 2 pounds from May but 5 pounds above the previous year. Total live weight was 236,000 pounds, down 19 percent from May and 26 percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during June was 100 head, unchanged from May but 100 head below the previous year. Live weight averaged 83 pounds, up 3 pounds from the previous month but the same as from the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.12 billion pounds in June, up 4 percent from the 3.96 billion pounds produced in June 2005.

June 2006 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. June 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.43 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.16 million head, up 8 percent from June 2005. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.0 million pounds, 1 percent below June a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,700 head, down slightly from June 2005. The average live weight was 4 pounds below last year, at 365 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.34 million head, 2 percent below June 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from June 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 211,800 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 1 pound from June a year ago.

January to June 2006 commercial red meat production was 23.3 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year; veal was down 4 percent; pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	May	June		January - June		June		January - June	
	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	-----Number, thousand head-----					-----Number, thousand head-----			
Cattle	0.8	1.1	0.9	7.1	4.4	2,937.6	3,159.0	15,887.3	16,645.2
Calves	0.2	0.3	0.2	2.4	1.7	58.9	58.7	376.6	331.0
Hogs	1.5	1.7	1.2	10.8	9.1	8,553.8	8,342.2	50,568.2	51,039.4
Sheep & Lambs	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.0	0.8	221.7	211.8	1,354.1	1,362.0
	-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----					-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----			
Cattle	643	906	661	6,215	3,596	3,656,128	3,977,593	19,685,251	21,023,174
Calves	121	158	79	1,229	910	21,754	21,415	130,315	122,524
Hogs	293	320	236	2,136	1,834	2,295,391	2,237,832	13,649,356	13,859,024
Sheep & Lambs	11	17	10	105	83	30,509	29,078	188,795	193,314
	-----Average live weight, pounds-----					-----Average live weight, pounds-----			
Cattle	787	799	769	875	817	1,245	1,259	1,239	1,263
Calves	498	516	455	512	535	369	365	346	370
Hogs	193	186	191	198	202	268	268	270	272
Sheep & Lambs	80	83	83	105	104	138	137	140	142
	-----Million pounds-----					-----Million pounds-----			
Red Meat	0.7	0.9	0.7	6.3	4.3	3,962.0	4,119.6	22,245.1	23,268.9

July 1 Cattle Inventory Up 1 Percent

All cattle and calves in the United States on July 1, 2006, totaled 105.7 million head, 1 percent above the 104.5 million on July 1, 2005 and 2 percent above the 103.4 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 43.0 million, were up slightly from the 42.8 million on July 1, 2005 and 1 percent above the 42.4 million two years ago.

- **Beef cows**, at 33.9 million, were up slightly from July 1, 2005, and up 1 percent from two years ago.
- **Milk cows**, at 9.15 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2005, and up 2 percent from two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2006, and the changes from July 1, 2005, are as follows:

- **All heifers 500 pounds and over**, 16.5 million, up 2 percent.
- **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.0 million, unchanged.
- **Milk replacement heifers**, 3.8 million, up 3 percent.
- **Other heifers**, 7.7 million, up 3 percent.
- **Steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.9 million, up 3 percent.
- **Bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged.
- **Calves under 500 pounds**, 29.2 million, up 1 percent.
- **All cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter, 12.5 million, up 4 percent.

Louisiana and United States Cattle and Calf Inventories

Class	Louisiana ¹	United States		
	Jan. 1, 2006	July 1, 2005	July 1, 2006	2006 as a percent of 2005
	-----Thousand Head-----			Percent
All Cattle and Calves	820	104,500	105,700	101
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	500	42,800	43,000	100
Beef Cows	468	33,750	33,850	100
Milk Cows	32	9,050	9,150	101
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	109	16,200	16,500	102
For Beef Cow Replacement	82	5,000	5,000	100
For Milk Cow Replacement	9	3,700	3,800	103
Other Heifers	18	7,500	7,700	103
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	20	14,400	14,900	103
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	32	2,100	2,100	100
Calves Under 500 Pounds	159	29,000	29,200	101
Calf Crop ²	400	37,780	37,900	100

¹ July 1 estimates are not published for Louisiana.

² For the U.S., the 2006 calf crop is all calves born before July 1, 2006, plus the number expected to be born on or after July 1.

Louisiana Catfish Growers Survey

Commercial catfish operations in Louisiana had 6.0 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 2006, down 43 percent from the July 1, 2005, total of 10.6 million. Live weight totaled 7.4 million pounds for all foodsize fish, 51 percent below July 1, 2005. The breakout of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2006, with their respective percent change from the previous year are: large foodsize, 195,000, down 70 percent; medium foodsize, 1.9 million, down 51 percent; and small foodsize, 4.0 million, down 35 percent. Catfish producers had 20,000 broodfish on hand on July 1, 2006, down 31 percent from last year. Live weight totaled 100,000 pounds for broodfish, down 13 percent from July 1, 2005. The number of stockers on hand on July 1, 2006, totaled 5.7 million fish, down 47 percent from the 10.8 million fish on hand a year ago. Of the total number of stockers on hand, 2.3 million were large stockers, down 42 percent from the previous year. The remaining 3.4 million were small stockers, down 50 percent. Live weight totaled 1.5 million pounds for all stockers, 34 percent below July 1 of last year. Producers had 34.1 million fingerlings and fry on hand July 1, 2006, down 65 percent from the 98.0 million fingerlings and fry on hand July 1, 2005. Live weight, at 277,000 pounds, was down 43 percent from the 484,000 pounds a year ago.

United States Catfish Growers Survey

Commercial catfish operations in the four major producing states (Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi) had 291 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 2006, down slightly from the July 1, 2005 total of 292 million. The breakouts of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2006, with their respective percent change from the previous year were: large foodsize, 7.13 million, down 1 percent; medium foodsize, 73.7 million, up 2 percent; and small foodsize, 210 million, down 1 percent. The four major states also had 930 thousand broodfish on hand on July 1, 2006, down 10 percent from last year's 1.03 million. The number of large stockers on hand on July 1, 2006, totaled 301 million fish, up 9 percent from the 275 million fish on hand a year ago. There were 336 million small stockers, up 11 percent from last year. Producers had 1.46 billion fingerlings and fry on hand on July 1, 2006, up slightly from the 1.45 billion on hand July 1, 2005. Live weight, at 23.2 million pounds, was up 50 percent from the 15.5 million pounds a year ago.

Louisiana and United States Catfish Production, July 1, 2006

Item	Louisiana				United States			
	Total Number		Total Live Weight		Total Number		Total Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	-----1,000 Fish-----		-----1,000 Pounds-----		-----1,000 Fish-----		-----1,000 Pounds-----	
Broodfish	29	20	115	100	1,029	930	4,855	4,350
Large Foodsize	660	195	2,400	670	7,210	7,125	25,400	24,870
Medium Foodsize	3,800	1,860	7,200	3,250	72,300	73,660	136,800	136,450
Small Foodsize	6,100	3,950	5,450	3,450	212,000	210,050	209,750	208,150
Total Foodsize	10,560	6,005	15,050	7370	291,510	290,835	371,950	369,470
Large Stockers	3,960	2,290	1,480	1,140	275,160	300,890	111,980	116,640
Small Stockers	6,820	3,420	720	315	303,220	335,820	30,760	32,845
Total Stockers	10,780	5,710	2,200	1,455	578,380	636,710	142,740	149,485
Fingerlings/Fry	98,000	34,100	484	277	1,450,000	1,457,100	15,484	23,177

July Farm Prices Received Index Unchanged From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in July, at 117 percent, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from June. The Crop Index is down 3 points while the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, broilers, asparagus and snap beans. Lower prices were received for grapes, cantaloupes, hogs and broccoli. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of grapes, wheat, tomatoes and hay offset decreased marketings of milk, cantaloupes, potatoes and asparagus.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 1 point from July 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 118, decreased 1 point from last month but was unchanged from July 2005.

Prices Paid Index Up 1 Point

The July Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates is 148 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 1 point from June and 7 points above July 2005. Higher prices in July for feeder cattle, gasoline, feed grains and diesel fuel more than offset lower prices for feeder pigs, nitrogen fertilizers, milk cows and herbicides.

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Average Prices Received by Farmers: Louisiana and United States

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	July 2005	June 2006	July 2006 ¹	July 2005	June 2006	July 2006 ¹
	-----Dollars-----			-----Dollars-----		
Soybeans, per bushel	2/	5.80	5.98	6.65	5.61	5.60
Rice, per cwt	6.85	8.55	8.50	6.82	8.04	8.06
Upland cotton, per pound	2/	.455	3/ .455	.411	.477	3/ .462
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	99.70	109.00	107.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	68.10	61.90	63.40	85.00	84.20	86.10
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	99.80	103.00	103.00	88.20	88.50	90.40
Cows, per cwt ⁵	51.80	43.50	43.00	53.80	46.70	47.00
Calves, per cwt	119.00	118.00	117.00	133.00	133.00	136.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.440	.390	.400
Eggs, all, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.527	.563	.456
Milk, all, per cwt ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	14.80	11.90	11.90

¹Mid-month.

²Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

⁴"Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.
n/a = not available.

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